

Serial No.: 10/772,394
Atty. Docket No.: P68779US1

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed August 10, 2005, has been carefully reviewed and Applicants note with appreciation the identification of allowable subject matter.

By this Amendment, Applicants have canceled claims 5 and 12-14, amended claims 1, 2, 6, 9, 10 and 15, and added claims 16-23. Claims 1-4, 6-11 and 15-23 are pending in the application. Claims 1 and 16 are independent.

The Examiner rejected claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. By this Amendment, claim 2 has been amended to place such claim into conformity with 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-4 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over WO 86/02526 to Fry in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,953,223 to Householder. The Examiner objected to claims 5-10 and 12-15 as being dependent on a rejected base claim but stated that claims 5-10 and 12-15 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

By this Amendment, Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the limitations of claim 5 with minor clarification. Therefore, claim 1 is in condition for allowance in accordance with the Examiner's identification of allowable subject matter in claim 5. Claims 2-4, 6-11 and 15 are also in condition for

Serial No.: 10/772,394
Atty. Docket No.: P68779US1

allowance as claims properly dependent on an allowable base claim and for the subject matter contained therein.

New claim 16 represents the subject matter of claim 12 rewritten in independent form. Therefore, claim 16 is in condition for allowance in accordance with the Examiner's identification of allowable subject matter in claim 12. Claims 17-23 are also in condition for allowance as claims properly dependent on an allowable base claim and for the subject matter contained therein.

With the foregoing amendments and remarks, the present application is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, the Examiner is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned attorney so that the present application can receive an early Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

JACOBSON HOLMAN PLLC

By Harvey B. Jacobson, Jr.
Harvey B. Jacobson, Jr.
Reg. No. 20,851 Reg. No. 40,495

400 Seventh Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20004-2201
Telephone: (202) 638-6666
Date: November 8, 2005
HBJ:SCB
R:\SBAILEY\11-05\P68779US1.AMD.wpd